


Fall 2017

# Regional Review: Reaching New Heights in the Region Fall 2017 (Vol.4, No.1)

Heather Garcia , editor

Western Kentucky University, [heather.garcia@wku.edu](mailto:heather.garcia@wku.edu)

Follow this and additional works at: [http://digitalcommons.wku.edu/reg\\_camp\\_pub](http://digitalcommons.wku.edu/reg_camp_pub)

 Part of the [Arts and Humanities Commons](#), [Business Commons](#), [Education Commons](#), [Life Sciences Commons](#), [Medicine and Health Sciences Commons](#), [Physical Sciences and Mathematics Commons](#), and the [Social and Behavioral Sciences Commons](#)

---

## Recommended Citation

Garcia, Heather , editor, "Regional Review: Reaching New Heights in the Region Fall 2017 (Vol.4, No.1)" (2017). *Regional Campuses Publications*. 5.

[http://digitalcommons.wku.edu/reg\\_camp\\_pub/5](http://digitalcommons.wku.edu/reg_camp_pub/5)

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by TopSCHOLAR®. It has been accepted for inclusion in Regional Campuses Publications by an authorized administrator of TopSCHOLAR®. For more information, please contact [topscholar@wku.edu](mailto:topscholar@wku.edu).

# REGIONAL REVIEW

*Reaching new heights in the region*



**WELCOME**  
**DR. DENNIS GEORGE**  
Associate Provost for  
Regional Higher Education

Supporting our mission of “Reaching New Heights in the Region,” [WKU's Regional Campuses](#) have two principal goals; to provide access to higher education and to improve the quality of life in the communities that are served. As you can see from this newsletter, folks at our regional campuses do an excellent job in nurturing ANY student at WKU no matter

which path a student may take. And, as you know, students take many, many paths in order to earn a degree and every student has a unique story. It takes support, collaboration, and creative solutions from the Colleges, Academic Programs, and Student Support Services to help students pursue excellence and achieve their dreams. It's important that we continue to work together and build on these strong partnerships to meet our student's needs. Thanks to our many partners for helping students at WKU's Regional Campuses pursue a life of excellence. The Spirit Makes The Master.

## PRESIDENT CABONI VISITS THE REGION

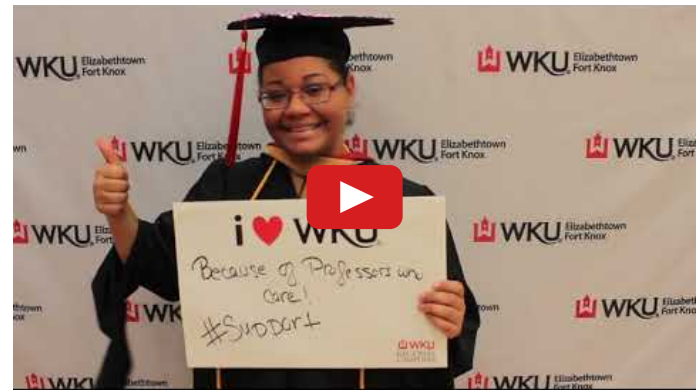


During President Caboni's first 30 days, he attended three community events in Elizabethtown, Glasgow and Owensboro. Many WKU staff and community members took advantage of the opportunity to meet President Caboni. Additionally, WKU's Regional Chancellors and President Caboni made time, during the visits, to meet with key officials in the region.

[wku.edu/regionalcampuses](http://wku.edu/regionalcampuses)



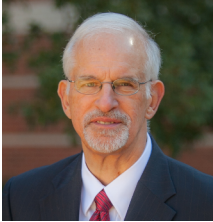
**ONE UNIVERSITY. FOUR CONVENIENT CAMPUSES.**



## FAREWELL RECEPTIONS

WKU's Regional Campuses and The Alumni Association hosted a series of retirement receptions to honor Dr. Gary and Julie Ransdell. Dr. Gary A. Ransdell ('73, '74) served as the ninth president of Western Kentucky University from September 12, 1997 until his retirement on June 30, 2017. The WKU family and community members came together for the special celebration.





## CHAT WITH THE CHANCELLOR

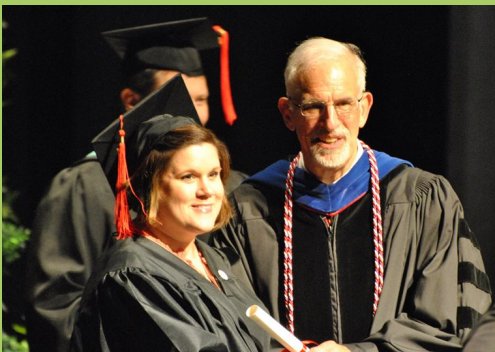
### DR. GENE TICE

WKU Owensboro  
Regional Chancellor

WKU Owensboro continues to emphasize the importance of higher education in the Owensboro community and is proud of the achievements of our local students. I encourage you to read on to learn about the impressive things our students, faculty, and staff have achieved and were part of during the spring and summer 2017 terms. The 2017-2018 academic year is progressing along well and WKU Owensboro looks forward to another successful year of helping students achieve their educational and career goals.



## SAVE THE DATE



### 2018 WKU Owensboro Commencement Ceremony

Monday, May 14  
6:30 p.m.

**RiverPark Center**  
101 Daviess Street  
Owensboro, Kentucky

WKU Owensboro joins in welcoming President Timothy C. Caboni and looks forward to reaching new heights in the region this academic year.

## CAMPUS NEWS

### ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

- WKU Owensboro launched the EDGE Professional Skills Program in spring 2017. The EDGE (Economic Development and Guidance Education) Program is designed to distinguish participants as superior candidates prior to entering the workforce. Students who are invited to participate have demonstrated considerable effort to engage in professional development outside of the classroom and have been identified as possessing significant leadership potential. The program was created in response to the Greater Owensboro Workforce Development Strategic Visioning Report, which identified a deficiency in leadership and soft skills ability in the Owensboro area workforce.

- The WKU Alumni Owensboro Chapter and WKU Owensboro student activities hosted Morning at the Movies on Saturday, July 15. Alumni, students, and their families were invited to watch Despicable Me 3 with their Hilltopper family.



- WKU Owensboro hosted a Greater Owensboro Chamber Business After Hours event with President Timothy C. Caboni on Thursday, July 13. The Owensboro business community had the opportunity to meet President Caboni and hear his vision for WKU and the region.





- WKU Owensboro hosted the Greater Owensboro Chamber of Commerce Rooster Booster Breakfast on Thursday, June 1.



- WKU Owensboro and OCTC spent time at the Friday After 5 Street Fair to promote partnerships in education on Friday, May 26!

- WKU Owensboro held its

Commencement Ceremony on Monday, May 15. Students and their families, along with WKU faculty and staff celebrated the accomplishments of the 2016/2017 graduates.



- WKU Owensboro held Furry Friends for Finals on May 8th and 9th. The Owensboro Humane Society brought adoptable dogs to campus for

finals week stress relief for students.

- The Spring Grill & Chill and kickball tournament was held on April 27. Students, alumni, and their families were invited to campus for a fun evening of food, inflatables, kickball and other activities.



- WKU Owensboro hosted a public lecture by Dr. James MacLeod "In Honor of Those Who Served: American Memorials of the First World War at Home and Abroad" on April 6 in the WKU Owensboro Badgett Conference Center.



- WKU Owensboro hosted the J. Rogers Badgett Foundation Scholarship Reception on Thursday,

February 9. This reception honors recipients of the scholarship and gives students the opportunity to express their gratitude to the Badgett Foundation.

- WKU Owensboro expanded the reach of the Dynamic Leadership Institute through teaching DLI to OCTC Ready to Work students.

## AWESOME ACHIEVEMENTS

- WKU Owensboro's Chelsea Martin & Hannah King presented at the National Academic Advising Association (Region 3) in Raleigh, North Carolina.



- WKU Owensboro was recognized as the Gold Winner in the category of Post-Secondary Education in the 2017 Messenger-Inquirer Readers' Choice Awards!



- Social work students from all of the WKU campuses participated in *Social Work Lobby Day in Frankfort*. After attending a training on

lobbying, faculty and students met with Rep. Jim DeCesare, Rep. Jim DuPlessis, Rep. DJ Johnson, and Rep. Jody Richards. Then, the group participated in a Social Work Rally in the Capitol Rotunda and observed the KY House of Representatives in session. Students remarked feeling empowered that their voices make an impact. They were also very eager to start advocating for particular NASW supported bills!

- Three WKU Owensboro social work students presented their research on Social Welfare Policy at the WKU Student Research Conference. The WKU Student Research Conference showcases scholarly activities of graduate and undergraduate students of diverse disciplines from across the main and regional campuses. An annual tradition since 1970, the conference has provided opportunities for thousands of students to present papers, performances, posters, exhibits, and displays on their research and creative endeavors.





## CHAT WITH THE CHANCELLOR

### DR. EVELYN ELLIS

WKU Elizabethtown-Fort Knox  
Regional Chancellor

Academic year 2017-2018 is quickly moving along at Western Kentucky University Elizabethtown-Fort Knox (WKU-E). It is absolutely mind-boggling that in the final weeks of last academic year and summer recess, students, faculty, staff, and friends of WKU-E bid farewell to former President Gary Ransdell and warmly welcomed President Tim Caboni. Within the first two weeks of his arrival at WKU, Dr. Caboni visited Elizabethtown! There is synergy in the air everywhere at WKU-E.

Lots of remarkable happenings at WKU-E during the 2016-2017



## SAVE THE DATE



### 2017 Fort Knox Military Graduation

Thursday, Nov. 16  
1 p.m. (EST)

#### Olive Theater

Bldg. 5928, 5931 Rhineland St.  
Fort Knox, Kentucky

academic year. Our partners at Hardin County Schools and the Hardin County Chamber of Commerce hosted a reception so folks in our WKU-E service area could meet and greet our new Chief Hilltopper! The annual appreciation “Splash” at the Fort Knox Water Park for WKU-E students and their families, as well as WKU Alumni and friends of WKU-E, was a night of free fun for over 300 the last Friday in July. WKU-E was given the green light to offer the Doctorate in Educational Leadership at Fort Knox beginning Spring 2018. The WKU Heartland Alumni Association hosted a special picnic to send-off in “Hilltopper style” students from the region who will be attending WKU at one of its four campuses.

Lindsey Akers, communications specialist, was selected to participate in the year-long 2017 Leadership Hardin County Program. Melissa Ballinger at Fort Knox was designated as a veterans’ support specialist. Royce Young moved from Kent State University in Kent, Ohio, to join WKU-E as an academic advisor at Fort Knox. Blake Butkovich, former WKU-E academic advisor for nearly a decade, made a career change to become a professional firefighter with the Elizabethtown Fire Department. Dr. Donielle Lovell, Associate Professor of Sociology, served as coordinator for the first-ever “Celebration of Science” event jointly hosted by WKU-E, Elizabethtown Community and Technical College (ECTC) and other community agencies. Librarian Anthony (Tony) Paganelli wowed attendees at the annual Ethnographic and Qualitative Research Conference in Las Vegas with his presentation entitled “Online Embedded Personal Librarian Model.”

Presenting along MSW graduate students Abbigail Ledford and Jessica Clemons, Associate Professor of Social Work, Dr. Larry Owens, shared hands-on instructional strategies to engage students in policy development

at the 2017 Association of Baccalaureate Social Work Program Directors (BPD) Annual Conference in New Orleans. The WKU-Hardin Memorial Health ASN to LPN nursing program was launched. Nicole Todd, a graduate student in the Master's of Public Administration program, was selected as a finalist to participate in the 2017 Network of Schools of Public Policy, Affairs, and Administration (NASPAA)-Batten Student Simulation Competition in Indianapolis, Indiana. Edward Razo, graduating senior, and WKU's 2017 Outstanding Undergraduate Social Work Student of the Year, with a perfect GPA of 4.0, served as WKU-E's 2017 Spring Commencement speaker and spearheaded Hardin County's first Chris Herren Purple Project Initiative to assist individuals and families struggling with addiction. The list could go on!

Here's hoping you will join us as we go forth into another stellar academic year during 2017-2018, in keeping with our campus mission: *"WKU Elizabethtown-Fort Knox provides unique educational opportunities that enhance individuals' personal growth by removing barriers to success. These experiences prepare students of all backgrounds to become critically-thinking, socially responsible, citizen-leaders ready to impact the local and global communities by fostering intergenerational change that contributes to a skilled, vibrant workforce thereby improving the quality of life for the region."*

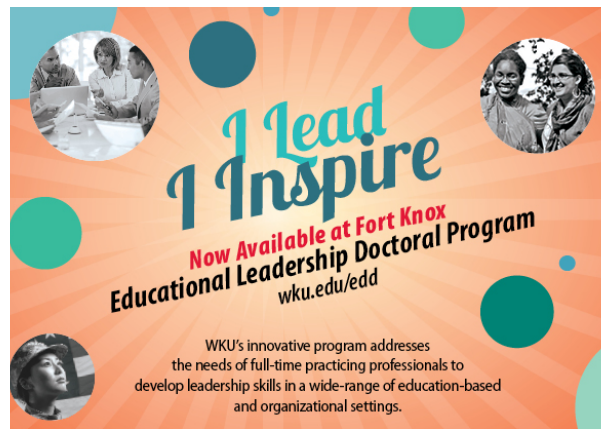
## CAMPUS NEWS

### ANNOUNCEMENTS



- We are pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. Royce Young to the position of academic advisor at Fort Knox.

In his new role, Mr. Young will work closely with U.S. military education counselors housed at the Fort Knox Education Services Center and military units' education liaisons, as well as with WKU academic advisors and academic advisors at WKU's partner institutions. He will also serve as the primary academic advisor for active duty, reserve, veteran, and retired military personnel, who are transferring to WKU or who are enrolled in online classes at WKU Elizabethtown-Fort Knox. To read more about Mr. Young click [here](#).



- WKU will offer its [Educational Leadership Doctoral Program](#) at Fort Knox with the first cohort of students scheduled to begin the Ed.D. program in January 2018.

The doctoral program offers four areas of program specialization from which participants can choose to pursue in-depth study after completing the initial required common "core" courses. These include:

**Organizational Leadership** – Designed for individuals who desire to serve or to enhance their capacity to serve in education-related organizations that are not classified as schools, colleges, or universities.

**P-12 Administrative Leadership** – Designed for individuals who desire to serve or to enhance their capacity to serve as P-12 school building or school district administrators.

**Postsecondary Leadership** – Designed for individuals who desire to serve or to enhance their capacity to serve in two-year and four-year institutions.

**Teacher Leadership** – Designed for individuals who desire to serve or to enhance their capacity to serve in leadership roles related to such areas as assessment, curriculum, technology, literacy, and classroom teaching.

In addition to the Educational Leadership Doctoral Program, WKU's College of Education and Behavioral Sciences offers degrees and programs in counseling and student affairs; educational administration, leadership and research; military science, psychology and teacher education. Many of these degrees and programs offered in Bowling Green are also available at the WKU Elizabethtown-Fort Knox Regional Campus. For more information click [here](#).





Hardin Memorial Health (HMH) and WKU officials announced a new partnership to remove financial barriers for HMH licensed practical nurses (LPNs) who want to advance their education and careers.

HMH will cover participants' tuition up front, and participants will be able to continue working full-time while earning an Associate of Science in Nursing (ASN). At the completion of the LPN to ASN Program, participants will be eligible to take the licensure exam and become registered nurses.

HMH and WKU leaders, joined by HMH nursing staff, signed a Memorandum of Agreement during a ceremony May 31 at Hardin Memorial Hospital in Elizabethtown.

While WKU will provide course delivery, advising and other student services, HMH will provide a clinical instructor, and clinical training will be completed at HMH. The curriculum includes one day of clinical instruction per week at HMH and online classes.

For more information click [here](#).

## ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS



- Fort Knox Education Center and Western Kentucky University, Elizabethtown-Fort Knox campus, partnered with the Kentucky Innovation Network and the Kentucky Cabinet for Economic Development to host an Entrepreneurial Summit.

The conference was held on Friday, April 28th at the Fort Knox Education Center. The summit was free and open to the public. The military community especially was encouraged to attend, along with veterans and spouses.

- Speakers included retired Col. Darrall Henderson, an expert on how to conduct business with the government and the certifications that are required and Rebecca Wheeling, a local entrepreneur who raised more than \$1.7 million in venture capital in a week's time.

As many as 15 experts covered topics throughout the day that included — agriculture business grants, business plan writing, information on patents and intellectual property, loans specific to veteran-owned businesses, raising venture capital, business model canvas, business certifications for disabled veterans and minorities and Kentucky tax incentives.

- WKU partnered with Elizabethtown Community and Technical College (ECTC), Central Hardin High School Drama Club, Girl Scout Troop 417, Heartland Progressive Alliance and the Hardin County Animal Shelter to host fun activities for children on Earth Day.



Activities were held at ECTC and included crafts, experiments, touching a snake and cockroaches and a play called "Polar Bear in New Jersey" performed by the Central Hardin High School Drama Club. Girl Scout Troop 413 was on hand to help paint rocks for the Elizabethtown Rocks Facebook page. Children attending could paint rocks and take them home, then they could hide them in the community and hunt for other rocks.

For more information about the event click [here](#).

## NEW FACULTY AND STAFF

- Royce Young, Academic Advisor

# AWESOME ACHIEVEMENTS

- WKU Elizabethtown – Fort Knox Communications Specialist, Lindsey Akers is in the Class of 2017-2018 Leadership Hardin County Chamber of Commerce.
- Melissa Ballinger at our Fort Knox site is now in charge of military support services.



## CHAT WITH THE CHANCELLOR

**DR. SALLY RAY**

WKU Glasgow  
Regional Chancellor

There is always something wonderfully energizing about the beginning of a new academic year. For faculty and staff, there is a sense of anticipation when considering new courses and projects, ideas for research proposals, conference schedules, and committee work. For students new to higher education, particularly those who are first-generation, the beginning of school creates varied emotions. The excitement that comes with new opportunities is often mixed with concerns about the financial, academic, and social aspects of college.

First-generation college students are students whose parents

either have no college

experience or didn't earn a bachelor's degree. These students tend to have limited knowledge about applying to, paying for, and enrolling in college. College often leaves them feeling overwhelmed, ill-prepared, and vulnerable to dropping out.

WKU's Glasgow Campus is uniquely positioned to assist first-generation college students in succeeding. Since WKU Glasgow was first established, the campus has been the university of choice for literally thousands of citizens in south central and southeastern Kentucky. Students choose WKU Glasgow for lots of reasons. The campus provides students the chance to stay close to home, saving time and money, while allowing convenient access to family, work, and community commitments. The campus atmosphere nurtures, challenges and builds camaraderie both in and out of the classroom. The small classes, approachability of faculty and staff, along with a one-stop shop of student services makes WKU Glasgow an ideal environment for first-generation students. They are excited to embark on their university experience when they choose to attend WKU Glasgow, and that is what makes this campus so special.

Additionally, WKU Glasgow is extending its reach to populations in the region by supporting statewide efforts to improve the educational attainment of Kentucky citizens and produce a stable, well-trained and productive workforce for business and industry. Beginning this fall WKU Glasgow, in partnership with DELO's Cohort Programs, is offering a certificate in human resources in support of the Kentucky Work Ready Scholarship Program. The courses in this pilot program are limited to recipients of the Work Ready Scholarship Program. Students who meet the requirements and apply for a scholarship will only receive the Kentucky Work Ready scholarship after



## SAVE THE DATE



### WKU Glasgow Graduand Ceremony

*A pre-commencement  
ceremony*

Thursday, May 3  
6:30 p.m.

#### Glasgow Plaza Theatre

115 E Main Street  
Glasgow, Kentucky

For more information  
click [here](#).



exhausting all other sources of federal or state student aid, excluding loans or work-study arrangements. The Work Ready program will help cover their remaining expenses but won't provide awards that exceed the in-state tuition and fees required to enroll full-time. The response by students to the WKU Glasgow offering so far has been extremely positive.

A new school year also offers a point for reflection. In April, WKU Glasgow said farewell with a reception honoring WKU President Gary and Julie Ransdell. Community members, faculty and staff, both present and past, and students, both present and past, were on hand to celebrate the 20 year



WKU transformation. The campus paid tribute to President and Mrs. Ransdell with a photographic wall montage and a personal gift of a watercolor of the garden at the WKU President's home in

Bowling Green. Glasgow artist, Betty Brogan, was commissioned to paint the tribute to "Julie's Garden," complete with the family pet, Diddle.

I am confident that 2017-18 will be a spectacular year that brings more student achievement and opportunity. Thank you for your continued support and best wishes for an academic year filled with great stories of learning and success!

## CAMPUS NEWS

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- John Roberts, Coordinator of Student Affairs, is excited to announce the appointment of two new student ambassadors: Thomas Bratcher, Biology major and Micah Terry, Entrepreneurship major.

### ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS

- WKU Glasgow hosted the Graduand Ceremony on May 4, 2017 at the Glasgow Plaza Theater. The ceremony was not only a celebration of the May class of 2017, but was also a time to



recognize and applaud the support of family, friends, faculty, staff, and the community, which helped these students excel in their endeavors. Seventy-six students were invited to be recognized for achieving either an associate's degree or bachelor's degree in 33 different areas of study.

- WKU Glasgow's START Center hosted the *MAYDAY Celebration* on May 1, which provided study sessions and tips for students as they prepared for spring finals. This event also featured guest speaker, State Representative, Steve Riley.



- Mrs. Yertty VanderMolen, Instructor of Spanish, hosted the annual *Festival Cultural Hispano* on campus on April 19. The festival provides an educational

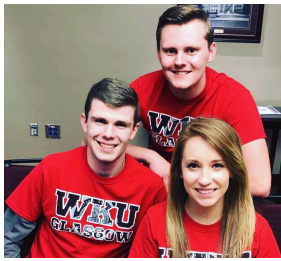
opportunity for high school students within the service region of WKU Glasgow as well as WKU students to demonstrate their knowledge and appreciation of Hispanic cultural through informational booths, a talent show, art, music, and more.



- As part of the *Read Local Series*, Dr. Trini Stickle, Assistant Professor of English and Ms. Audrey Robinson-Nkongola, Assistant Professor and WKU Librarian, hosted Dr.

Tom Hunley, WKU Professor of English and poet, on March 7 to discuss his works and his life as an academic poet. On April 11, local author, Dr. Molly McCaffrey, discussed life as a writer and her memoir *You Belong to Us*.

- WKU Glasgow launched a new spotlight series using Facebook Live on April 4 to feature current students, faculty, staff, alumni, and business partners to outreach to our communities in the



service region and provide information about earning a degree. John Roberts, Coordinator of Student Affairs, is the current host of the program. WKU Glasgow will go live again on October 26,

and November 28. Learn more at on [WKU Glasgow's Facebook page](#).

- On March 25, WKU Glasgow co-sponsored a public event that featured actress Kelly McGillis as well as the rest of the cast and crew from the movie *An Uncommon Grace*. The event was hosted at the Glasgow Plaza Theatre and was hosted by WKU's Amy Bingham DeCesare.

- In January, a group of students, faculty, and staff from WKU Glasgow traveled to Washington D.C. for the presidential inauguration. While there, students, faculty, and staff were able to visit with U.S. Congressman, James Comer.



### NEW FACULTY AND STAFF

- Ms. Gabi Madison, Instructor of Psychology
- Mrs. Erica Billingsley, Instructor of Math

## AWESOME ACHIEVEMENTS



- Ashley Broady and Kendra Cline, May 2017 graduates, received the WKU Glasgow Scholar Award presented at the Glasgow Graduand Ceremony. The Scholar Award is presented to a student who has demonstrated exceptional scholarship while at WKU Glasgow. The award was presented by Mrs. Anne Patterson, Instructor of Elementary Education and Mrs.

Leigh Ann Wells, Instructor of Math.



- Kaitlyn Wyatt, May 2017 graduate, was the recipient of the WKU Glasgow Spirit Award presented at the Glasgow Graduand Ceremony. The Spirit Award recognizes a student whose vision and goals successfully mobilize his or her

fellow students to action. The award was presented by Mrs. Anne Patterson, Instructor of Elementary Education.

- Deborah Hall, May 2017 Graduate, received the Dr. Juanita C. Bayless Award presented at the Glasgow Graduand Ceremony. In honor of Dr. Juanita C. Bayless (1939-2010), a former director of WKU Glasgow, this award recognizes a student who has overcome obstacles and defied the odds to get a degree. The award was presented by Mrs. Lindsey Reynolds, Instructor of Agriculture and Mrs. Amanda Brooks, Instructor of Chemistry.



- Heather Hatcher, May 2017 Graduate, received the Outstanding Undergraduate, Elementary Education (Glasgow) Award at the Carroll Knicely Center during the WKU Awards Program. The award was presented by Dr. Sam Evans, Dean of College of Education and

Behavioral Sciences.

- Crystal Walker, Academic Advisor, was recently appointed to the 2017-2019 Staff Council as the regional campus representative for Glasgow. The Council is excited about their recently updated Constitution and Bylaws, which provide for each Chancellor at the Regional Campuses to appoint one representative. They believe these new representatives will give the Council a fresh perspective that represents the voices of Regional Campus staff.

